

Dr. Carson observed that the white fruited variety of *Gaylussacia resinosa* exhibited this evening, was very unusual, and desired that its locality, Warrior's Ridge, Huntington County, Pennsylvania, should be placed on record.

Dr. C. M. Cresson called attention to the specimens of ripple-marked sandstone presented by him this evening. They were taken from Second Mountain in the gap, through which the west branch of the Schuylkill passed, Schuylkill Co., Pa. The formation is No. 10 of Rogers' enumeration, otherwise known as the Vespertine White Sandstone. These ripple-marked plates occur in thin laminæ, and those at present exposed consist of three layers: two outer layers ripple-marked upon the surfaces next to the centre plate, and plane upon the exterior surfaces, and a centre plate ripple-marked upon each side, the markings fitting those of the enclosing laminæ. These waves are extremely regular and very nearly parallel with each other. The apices or crests of the waves are about 3" apart, and the depression varies from  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ ". The thickness of the plates averages about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

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*Sept. 21st.*

Vice-President LEA in the Chair.

Forty members present.

The following paper was presented for publication in the Proceedings: "Description of a new Tanager from the Isthmus of Darien, and note on *Selenidera spectabilis*, by John Cassin," and was referred to a Committee.

Dr. Leidy exhibited a large specimen of Cryolite, obtained by Mr. Frischmuth from a locality on the river Schuylkill, near Philadelphia.

The death of Mr. John A. Vancleve, of Dayton, Ohio, late Correspondent of the Academy, was announced by Dr. Jas. C. Fisher.

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*Sept. 28th.*

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Thirty-three members present.

A paper read before the Biological Department, entitled "Secondary formation of Blood Crystals by W. A. Hammond, M. D.," was ordered to be printed in the Proceedings of the Department.

The following paper was ordered to be printed:

Description of a New **TANAGER** from the Isthmus of Darien, and note on **SELENIDERA SPECTABILIS**, Cassin.

BY JOHN CASSIN.

Having recently had an opportunity of examining a collection of birds made on the Isthmus of Darien, I have been much gratified as well as surprised to find both sexes of the Toucan, recently described by me, under the name of *Selenidera spectabilis*, (Proc. Acad., 1857, p. 214.) The collection alluded to was made by a party under the command of Lieut. N. Michler, U. S. Topog. Eng., that surveyed a route for a ship canal across the Isthmus, by order of the Government of the United States.

In the collection, there is also a single specimen of a Tanager of the same group as *Calliste gyrola*, *gyroloides* and *Desmarestii*, but distinct from either, 1858.]

and easily recognised by nearly the whole of the outer surface of the wing being bright chestnut like the head. It is as follows:—

1. *CALLISTE LAVINIA*, Cassin.

Very similar to *C. gyrola*, *gyroloides* and *Desmarestii*, and about the same size, but having the shoulders, wing coverts, and outer edges of the secondary and shorter primary quills, bright rufous chestnut, with a golden yellow lustre on the shoulder. Head above and cheeks bright chestnut, back of the neck golden yellow, which color extends somewhat and fades gradually on the back. Throat with a longitudinal stripe of pale blue, and another of the same color on the middle of the abdomen; tibiae rufous. All other parts fine lustrous green, inner webs of quills and tail feathers black, bill and feet light colored.

Total length about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches, wing  $2\frac{3}{4}$ , tail  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches.

*Hab.* Isthmus of Darien, New Grenada. Discovered by Mr. W. S. Wood, Jr., naturalist, attached to U. S. Surveying party, in command of Lieut. N. Michler, U. S. Topog. Engineers.

This handsome bird is named in honor of Mrs. Lavinia Bowen, of this city, whose superior skill as an artist in natural history, and especially in ornithology, fully entitles her to such commemoration. Nearly all plates in Ornithology published in this city within the last twenty years, and many others in every department of Zoology, have been prepared under the supervision and direction of this lady.

2. *SELENIDERA SPECTABILIS*, Cassin.

*Selenidera spectabilis*, Cassin. Proc. Acad. Philada., 1857, p. 214.

As stated above, both sexes of this bird are in the collection made by the surveying party, on the Isthmus of Darien, in command of Lieut. Michler, U. S. Top. Eng. The males do not vary from my description, as cited above, and both sexes have the bill parti-colored and variegated in its lighter portion as previously described.

Female. General colors very similar to those of the male, but with the head above dark chestnut, as in the females of other species of the genus *Selenidera*. Under tail coverts scarlet, mixed with dark chestnut.

According to Mr. William S. Wood, Jr., who accompanied the expedition as naturalist, this Toucan was obtained near the village of Susio, in the province of Choco, New Grenada. It was observed, generally, frequenting a tree called *Cremantina*, by the inhabitants, on the fruit of which it appeared to subsist at the period when noticed.

Dr. Fisher announced, that during the past week, the mortgage debt of the Academy had been entirely cancelled, \$10,000 having been presented for that purpose by one of the members, and \$1000 derived from the surplus funds of the Academy.

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Oct. 5th.

Major JOHN LE CONTE in the Chair.

Twenty-nine members present.

A paper was presented for publication in the Proceedings entitled "Description of a New Species of *Argynnis*, by James C. Fisher, M. D." and referred to a Committee.

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Oct. 12th.

Vice-President LEA in the Chair.

Thirty-four members present.

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